Segment 8 - Logan to Smithfield

General Description

This segment has a section of trail, Logan Canyon to Green Canyon, that will be the first portion of the NBST built in Cache Valley. The complete trail route travels north from the mouth of Logan Canyon into the City of Smithfield (see maps 14 and 15 in Appendix G). This section has a number of possible routes including the existing powerline corridor, the Logan Hyde Park Smithfield canal, and the foothills between the agricultural lands and the Wasatch Cache National Forest. The trail will link the largest populated area in Cache Valley and its existing recreational trail systems to the NBST network. The trail skirts the Mount Naomi Wilderness Area between Logan Canyon and Green Canyon.

Environmental Description

Slope

The slope aspect of this section is to the west. The terrain along this section is a mixture of rolling hills, agricultural lands, and steep slopes at the many drainages and canyon crossings.

Hydrology

The trail will intersect many intermittent and perennial streams along the route, the largest of which is Birch Creek. The Logan Hyde Park Smithfield canal will also be paralleled and crossed in this segment.

Wildlife

The trail will be near the Mount Naomi Wilderness Area boundary but will not directly cross any normal or critical wildlife range.

Geology

The trail parallels the Eastern Cache (Logan) Fault along the entire segment. The trail will come into direct contact with land slide areas in five locations along the route.

Alternative A- PacifiCorp Powerline Corridor (7.5 Miles)

This segment of trail will start at the mouth of Logan Canyon and follow the Logan Hyde Park Smithfield canal for 0.75 mile before intersecting the powerline corridor just above Lundstrom Park. The trail then continues along the powerline easement north, ending at a trailhead at the mouth of Smithfield Canyon.

Ownership

The land the trail crosses is along easements granted to the powerline and canal companies. The easements are surrounded by private land.

Trail Development Opportunities

- The trail will utilize existing corridors, which will minimize construction costs;
- The first section of NBST will be built during the spring of 2002 and will add motivation for the surrounding communities to build their sections; and
- This trail segment links the most populated communities in Cache Valley to a trail system that encourages pedestrian use.

Trail Development Constraints

- The existing powerline corridor is rather straight and does not offer much in the way of diverse alignment opportunities, and
- Mendon private land/ privacy issues.

Trailheads

There will be four trailheads along this section of NBST:

- The southern most trailhead will be located on the north side of Highway 89 at the mouth of Logan Canyon.
- The Lundstrom Park Trailhead will be an easy access point for the neighborhood above Utah State University.
- Green Canyon, which is an established and popular destination for recreational users in all seasons, will provide the third trailhead along this segment.
- Smithfield Canyon marks the end of this segment to the north and will have a trailhead located along Summit Creek for the residents of Smithfield to access.

Alternative B- Foothill Alignment (9.5 Miles)

This route would follow the Logan Hyde Park Smithfield canal for 0.75 mile before intersecting the PacifiCorp powerline corridor. The trail would follow the powerline for 2 miles before picking up the 5,100-foot elevation contour. The trail would follow this elevation for a little less than 4 miles, ending at the trailhead in Smithfield Canyon. The trail would be located between agricultural lands and the Wasatch Cache National Forest.

Ownership

The land the trail crosses is a mixture of both public and private lands. The trail will use powerline and canal easements for the first 3 miles and then cross private land as it heads north.

Trail Development Opportunities

- This alignment offers a diverse route that would mimic the existing foothill contours, and
- The route allows users to be as far away from the populated areas as possible.

Trail Development Constraints

- The route does not follow any established trail and would need to be constructed, and
- The trail alignment in some places is located 1 mile from the populated area, thus creating the need for extensive links.

Trailheads

The trailheads proposed for Alternative B would be the same as described for Alternative A.

Other Trail Alignment Opportunities

The Logan Hyde Park Smithfield Canal offers another routing possibility. The trail alignment would intersect the canal above North Logan City and follow the canal easement to the trailhead in Smithfield Canyon. Another possibility would include the small segment of powerline corridor located just north of Smithfield. This corridor extends from the Cutler Marsh Area east and into the foothills north of the Smithfield Canyon mouth.

Potential Trail Linkages

- **♦** Logan City,
- Utah State University,
- **♦** Lundstrom Park,
- ❖ Green Canyon,
- North Logan City,
- ♦ Hyde Park City,
- Smithfield City, and
- Smithfield Canyon.